

CHAPTER X: WAR AND INSURRECTION, 1898-1905

A. War and Insurrection, 1898-1901

An' what shud I do with the Ph'ilippeens? Oh, what shud I do with thim? I can't annex thim because I don't know where they ar-re. I can't let go iv thim because some wan else'll take thim if I do.

Mr. Dooley in Peace and in War, p. 44

Cuban insurrection against Spanish rule began in earnest in 1895. The voices of Cuban exiles in New York City, abetted by the American press, heightened Americans' concern with the Spanish administration, which was seen as corrupt and inefficient. On February 15, 1898, battleship USS *Maine*, ostensibly on a mission of friendly courtesy, blew up in Havana Harbor. Regardless of the cause of the explosion, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution four days later proclaiming Cuba free and independent and authorized President William McKinley to use land and naval forces to expel Spain. When another four days had passed the President called for 125,000 volunteers. And on April 23, 1898, the Congress declared that the United States had been at war with Spain since April 21.

In the far Pacific the exiled Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo had already become the titular head of an insurrection against the Spanish administration in the Philippine Islands. European powers, Germany in particular, and Japan along with the United States had been watching developments in that archipelago. With war declared, the United States made the decision, not to liberate the islands, but to occupy them. The U.S. Asiatic Squadron, commanded by Commodore George Dewey, entered Manila Bay and defeated the Spanish naval forces on May 1. Not knowing of Dewey's successes, President McKinley authorized the assembling of army troops at San Francisco. On July 31 these troops mounted a campaign against Manila, the capital, and completed the occupation of it two weeks later.¹

The Presidio of San Francisco had begun a series of changes even before the order calling for the assembly of troops at San Francisco. In March several troop units had transferred to the East Coast. The

1. Frank Freidel, *The Splendid Little War* (Boston: Little, Brown, 1958), pp. 279-283; Walter Millis, *The Martial Spirit* (Cambridge: Riverside, 1931), pp. 81, 148-150, and 254. En route to the Philippines, the first contingent of American troops annexed Spanish-held Guam, the southernmost of the Mariana Islands. The United States annexed the Hawaiian Islands that summer.

artillery troops moved out of the brick barracks and moved into a tent camp at Fort Point. While the March returns had counted 41 officers and 872 men present, the figures for April accounted for only 11 officers and 231 men, all of the 4th Cavalry.²

The first volunteer troops arrived at the Presidio in June – Battery B, California Artillery; four companies of the 6th California Infantry; and four companies of the 1st Washington Infantry. For the time being the Presidio counted these units as part of the regular Presidio garrison. Also in June a tent camp sprang up on the reserve near the eastern boundary named Camp Miller for Marcus Miller recently appointed a brigadier general of volunteers and who took command of all volunteers still at San Francisco in July 1898. A miscellaneous return completed for this camp in July showed it was occupied by 13 officers and 399 enlisted men: 1st Battalion, Heavy Artillery, California Volunteers, and Battery A, Light Artillery, Wyoming Volunteers. Camp Miller had already dispatched the 6th Artillery Battalion with twelve pieces of field artillery and elements of the 1st Battalion, Light Artillery, Utah Volunteers, to the Philippines.³

Meanwhile, large numbers of volunteer troops, nearly all infantry, poured into San Francisco beginning in May. The vast majority of these occupied a tent camp hastily set up immediately to the south of the Presidio, between it and Golden Gate Park and west of today's Arguello Boulevard, a locality called the "Bay District Tract." Part of the site apparently had once been a cemetery, and more recently a racetrack. First Avenue (Arguello Boulevard), Sixth Avenue, Fulton Street, and Balboa Street formed its boundaries. All things considered, this Camp Merritt was a thoroughly miserable location, vividly described by its occupants. Maj. Gen. Elwell S. Otis arrived in San Francisco in May to take charge of these troops that formed the Philippine Expeditionary Force until the arrival of Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt

2. PSF, Post Returns 1898. While the artillery troops did not appear on the regular returns, no separate returns for them have been found.

3. Charles R. Detrick, *History of the Operations of the First Regiment of California U.S. Volunteer Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), p. 1, claimed that this regiment (men from the Bay Area) and the 7th California Infantry (men from southern California), arriving at the Presidio on April 7, were the first volunteers to report. They remained at the post for sixteen days. Inasmuch as the war did not begin until later in April and President McKinley did not authorize volunteers for San Francisco until May 4, these two units are not considered to be a part of the expedition until later. The 1st California Infantry did serve in the Philippines. Their rallying song: "We're going to fight with Dewey in the land beyond the sea." Their yell:

The Maine! The Maine!
Remember the Maine!
Cuba Libre!
To Hell with Spain.

later that month.⁴

Otis and the other commanders faced two great problems at San Francisco – supplies and shipping. The San Francisco depot quartermaster had already shipped the bulk of his supplies to the East Coast for the invasion of Cuba, leaving his shelves nearly bare. Suitable ships for transporting the troops across the Pacific were hard to find and many men sailed under miserable conditions. A member of the 2d Oregon Infantry on board *Australia* in the first contingent described the terrible food, the running out of drinking water, and an outbreak of measles. They had left San Francisco before receiving all their clothing and equipment.⁵

When the 1st Tennessee Infantry reached Camp Merritt in June they found a vacant block of sandy ground but no shelter or food. They remained almost two months in "this unhealthy, ill-drained, wind-swept locality" before moving to the Presidio. Eleven men died from diseases while there. A soldier in the 1st Nebraska Infantry wrote that while his outfit enjoyed the amenities of Golden Gate Park and San

4. The camp was named after Wesley Merritt who graduated from West Point in 1860. Commissioned in the Dragoons he had a distinguished career during the Civil War, emerging a major general of volunteers. During the Indian Wars he served in the Cavalry. A brigadier general in 1887, he commanded several departments. In May 1898 he took command of the forces to be sent to the Philippines. His VIII Corps besieged Manila in July. Merritt served briefly as military governor of the Philippines. He retired in 1900 and died in 1910.

Ewell S. Otis, a graduate of the Harvard Law School, joined the Army as an enlisted man in 1861, the first year of the Civil War. Severely wounded at the battle for Petersburg, he mustered out in 1865 with the rank of colonel. In 1881 he founded a school at Fort Leavenworth that became the Command and General Staff College. A brigadier general in 1893, he became a major general of volunteers in 1898. In the Philippines he succeeded Merritt as military governor. Retiring in 1902, he died in 1909. McHenry, ed. *Webster's American Military Biographies*. Mike Radette, San Francisco, telecom to writer, August 23, 1995, provided information concerning Camp Merritt's boundaries.

5. W.D.B. Dodson, *Official History of the Operations of the Second Oregon Infantry*. . . (n.d., n.p.), p. 7.

First contingent left San Francisco May 25, 158 officers, 2,386 men.

Second contingent left San Francisco June 15, 158 officers, 3,404 men

Third contingent left San Francisco June 27-29, 198 officers, 4,642 men, 34 civilians

(clerks, newspaper correspondents, etc.)

Fourth contingent left San Francisco July 15 - August 27, 172 officers, 4,720 men, 17 civilians

Fifth contingent left San Francisco October 17 - November 10, 233 officers, 6,258 men

Sixth contingent left San Francisco January 19 - May 30, 1899, 69 officers, 2,505 men, 3 civilians

Karl Irving Faust, *Campaigning in the Philippines* (San Francisco, 1899), pp. 63-67.

Francisco, the camp was cold and dark most of the time. At one point the Army removed the straw bedding as a sanitary measure and the troops then slept on the hard ground. Lieutenant Martin E. Tew, 13th Minnesota Infantry noted that Camp Merritt had almost 200 men on sick call one morning. He complained of the incessant, unending, and wearing drill the raw soldiers had to endure.

Another lieutenant, from the 1st Montana Infantry, wrote of the bottomless sand, the fleas, and the thick fog at night. He said that the drilling was held in the Presidio itself, on a sloping hillside overlooking the Pacific Ocean (today's golf course or the future Fort Scott parade ground?). One of the more detailed accounts came from the pen of Capt. F.W. Medbery, 1st South Dakota Infantry, "The site selected for our camp had not the most promising appearance imaginable. It was a lot enclosed by a board fence and containing sand of an unknown depth and rank sagebrush. The place was swept by the ocean breeze. It was usually chilly at night and . . . really cold on account of the fog." His regiment too drilled at the Presidio, "The field used for a drill field was not level and the grass was short and slippery, yet we marched back and forth upon it five hours each day . . . by companies, by battalions, by regiments, and on one occasion by a whole brigade." He said that no member of that outfit would ever forget the two months at Camp Merritt.⁶

Joseph I. Markey, 51st Iowa Infantry, penned a lengthy account of life at Camp Merritt. He recalled arriving in San Francisco by ferry and being given a lunch by the Red Cross. The regiment then marched to the camp where the sand moved like snow. He recalled that the drinking water was excellent and that the surrounding hills were beautiful, covered with flowers and trees. He noted three large cemeteries nearby – Laurel Hill, Calvary, and Masonic. The regiment lived in old tents that housed seven men each. At night the soldiers placed rubber blankets on the wet sand and rolled up in woolen ones. By morning uniforms would be damp from the humidity. Markey discovered bits of human bones and coffin fragments on the site, mailing some of these souvenirs to a former teacher.

Soon sickness set in, more than 1,390 cases showing up at sick report. The regimental surgeon declared the camp unfit for soldiers, but not before death claimed ten men. Markey wrote, "A funeral here is a

6. Allen L. McDonald, *The Historical Record of the First Tennessee Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), p. 5; Anon, *History of the Operations of the First Nebraska Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), p. 6; M.E. Tew, *Official History of the Operations of the 13th Minnesota Infantry* (1899), p. 3; Alexander Laist, *Official History of the First Montana Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), pp. 4-5; Frank W. Medbery, *Official History of the Operations of the First South Dakota Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), p. 4.

most impressive ceremony. Led by a band playing low, solemn music, pall-bearers and an army wagon with the corpse follow; then company officers and comrades of the dead, marching in slow cadence to the military burying ground, where a salute is fired by his mess mates." The Retreat Parade also fascinated him, "Roll call over, the band plays "The Star Spangled Banner," soldiers stand at parade rest, and officers with hats removed and bowed heads."⁷

Volunteer Col. Frederick Funston, a little-known officer at that time, commanded the 20th Kansas Infantry Regiment. Soon to be known as the "Eternal Boy" and "Fearless Freddie," Funston had failed the West Point entrance examination in 1890. Later he joined the insurrectionists in Cuba. When war with Spain came, the governor of Kansas appointed him the regimental colonel – the first time he had worn a U.S. Army uniform. In a delightful account of life in San Francisco he told that the regiment, "the Kansas scarecrows," had arrived without uniforms. When the proper clothing did arrive, the dye promptly faded. Concerning the camp he said, "Everywhere was sand, sand, sand, deep and fine, blowing into tents, getting into food."

When General Miller assumed command of the camp, Funston paid his respects. The general looked up, smiled, and said, "Well, well. So you are a colonel are you? Sit right down on this box and tell me how anybody came to make a young chap like you a colonel." Funston also told of noticing an unschooled soldier wandering around carrying a bouquet of flowers, and seeing a general approaching, yelled to the soldier, "Drop the flowers." The flustered soldier dropped his trousers.⁸

At the end of July 1898 the commanding general of the Department of California, Brig. Gen. Henry C. Merriam, authorized the closing of "damp, cold, and unclean" Camp Merritt and the reassignment of the remaining volunteers to the Presidio of San Francisco. At the same time the tents of the Division Field Hospital came down, and the sick too moved to the Presidio where an army general hospital would soon be erected.

7. J.I. Markey, *From Iowa to the Philippines, A History of Company M, Fifty-First Iowa Infantry Volunteers* (Red Oak, Iowa, 1900), pp. 58-67.

8. Frederick Funston, *Memoirs of Two Wars, Cuba and Philippine Experiences* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1911), pp. 158-166. Funston, then thirty-three, dedicated this book to the little boy who sleeps forever in the national cemetery of the Presidio of San Francisco, his infant son. Another officer, in the 1st Montana Infantry, said of the uniforms, the blue turned to purple and the trousers a glaring horrible green.

Not all the volunteer regiments got their early training at Camp Merritt. The 1st Battalion of the 1st Washington Infantry arrived in San Francisco by steamer in May 1898. Instead of marching to the camp the battalion occupied the large, brick Fontana warehouse just east of Fort Mason. The San Francisco depot quartermaster had leased this structure for housing army supplies well before the war. Later the 2d Battalion arrived. These troops realized they had more comfortable quarters than their brothers at Camp Merritt. Before leaving for the Philippines the 1st Washington also moved to the Presidio.⁹

The existing Camp Miller became part of the new tent camp that a low ridge divided into two sections (Miller being toward the Presidio's eastern boundary and the other being in low ground east of the Presidio's officers' row). Because the 1st Tennessee Regiment camped on this latter ground, the area came to be called Tennessee Hollow. The Army named the entire tent installation Camp Merriam for the department commander. An incomplete accounting showed that at least the following infantry units occupied the camp before embarking for the Philippines: 20th Kansas, 51st Iowa, 1st Tennessee, 1st and 7th California Infantry, a portion of the California Volunteer Artillery, 2d Oregon, 13th Minnesota, and the 1st New York. Joseph Markey from Iowa thought the grounds of the Presidio to be beautiful. He described the nearby officers' quarters as pretty little cottages with nice yards. Cannon balls lined the street curbs. Best of all, his tent had a wooden floor.

The health of the troops rapidly improved. New uniforms arrived: 2 white duck suits, 1 light brown duck suit, a cap, a cork helmet, light garrison shoes, and 2 suits of light woolen underwear for each soldier. The entire 51st Regiment took a train to Stanford University where its football team beat Stanford 6 to 0. Later the team tied the University of California 0-0. All good things must end and by the end of October 1898 Camp Merriam lay almost deserted when the balance of the volunteers sailed for the Philippines.

When the soldiers thought back on the early days of Camp Merritt they recalled how the ladies of the Bay area, particularly a Miss Uri and Mrs. W.T. Vietch, had come out to visit the sick. Mrs. Vietch, a member of the Oakland Red Cross, opened a convalescent home for the men. Soldier Markey never forgot the thirty female nurses who cared for the patients in the field hospital. Another soldier told of Mrs. A.S. Townsend, San Francisco, who devoted time and money (\$60,000 on Camp Merritt alone) to

9. William L. Luhn, *Official History of the Operations of the First Washington Infantry* (n.p., n.d.), pp. 4-5.

the welfare of soldiers on their way to and from the Philippine Islands. Markey also remembered one more thing. "We have hopes that at some time the truth will come out as to who is responsible for Camp Merritt's existence and that the guilty will not go unpunished."¹⁰

All the while the volunteer regiments trained at Camps Merritt and Merriam, the internal affairs of the Presidio of San Francisco continued in a normal fashion. While the post commander had no authority over Camp Merritt outside the reservation, he did include Merriam's troops on the Presidio's post returns, at least while Brig. Gen. Marcus Miller, commanded both the post and the camp. In July 1898 the post returns counted more than 2,000 men present for duty. In addition to the regular troops, the Presidio inherited a few volunteer units not associated with those scheduled for the Philippines.

A squadron of the regular 4th Cavalry departed for the Philippines in July, leaving but two troops, B and M, for duty. The 1st Troop of the Utah Volunteer Cavalry arrived to add to the national parks' protective forces. (It mustered out at the end of the year.) The 3d Artillery, camped "on the heights" at Fort Point, lost two of its four batteries to the Philippines in August. To care for and guard the new heavy guns and mortars at Fort Winfield Scott, three companies of the 8th California Volunteer Infantry joined the artillery troops. Three other organizations then at the Presidio completed the garrison: a battery of the Utah Volunteer Light Artillery, a troop from the Nevada Volunteer Cavalry, and a battery of the Wyoming Light Artillery.

As autumn approached, General Miller wrote down his thoughts concerning winter quarters. He said that Batteries E and I, 3d Artillery, 9 officers and 395 men, could occupy two of the brick barracks when they came back from Fort Winfield Scott. The Division Field Hospital already had taken 2½ of the brick barracks. The 4th Cavalry, 6 officers and 194 men, continued to occupy its two barracks, today's 86 and 87. He could put the three companies of the 8th California Infantry and the Utah light battery in four of the old wooden barracks. The two old two-story light artillery barracks at the north end of the parade held the personal property of units then in the Philippines. They could be cleaned out to make room for the Utah cavalry. As for the other volunteers, space would soon be available for them on Angel Island.¹¹

10. Markey, *From Iowa to the Philippines*, pp. 86-95, 102, and 108-116; Arthur McDonald, *First Tennessee Infantry*, p. 49.

11. PSF Post Returns 1898; Miller, October 10, 1898, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

April 1899 brought considerable changes in the Presidio garrison. All the volunteer units had departed by then and in their place came the field, staff, and band, and three companies of the Regular Army 2d Infantry Regiment. The Presidio now had two bands, the 4th Cavalry's having arrived in 1898. The 3d Artillery's strength doubled this month with the organization of "Battery O." It and Battery I returned to Fort Winfield Scott for the summer months. Troops B and M, 4th Cavalry, sailed for Manila in May. Not until August did a troop from the 6th Cavalry arrive for duty in Yosemite National Park, where it remained until December. A second troop arrived at the Presidio in September, but whether Sequoia had a cavalry detail that year remains unknown.

Units of the 24th Infantry Regiment (black soldiers) and their chaplain, Allen Allensworth, began arriving in May for a brief stay, departing for the Philippines in June and July along with troops of the 25th Infantry (also black). In March 1899 twenty-four new volunteer infantry regiments were added to the Army, which numbered them 26 through 49. One of these, the 30th Infantry, U.S. Volunteers, called "Red Necks" because of their red ties, camped briefly at the Presidio in September. They had target practice "on one of the best rifle ranges in the country," and participated in a dress parade for General Shafter who "was too portly a build to make an impressive figure on horseback." On September 23 a band played "Apple Blossom" when the 30th Volunteers marched through San Francisco to a waiting ship.¹²

By the summer of 1899 the occupation of the Philippines had turned into guerilla warfare. New personnel figures appeared on the Presidio's post returns – replacements for this new war. Meanwhile the Army set about improving the Presidio's Camp Merrill area for the return of the state volunteers. The Secretary of War directed the establishment of a "model camp" for the returnees capable of holding 4,000 troops at a time. In his annual report the secretary recorded that \$29,000 had been spent on the improved facilities.¹³ Between July and November 1899 nearly all these regiments disembarked at the San Francisco piers.

12. PSF Post Returns 1899; Charles F. Baker, compiler, *A History of the 30th Infantry U.S. Volunteers, in the Philippine Insurrection, 1899-1901* (n.p., n.d.), pp. 38 and 58. Chaplain Allensworth's army career is briefly described in Earl F. Stover, *Up From Handyman, The United States Army Chaplaincy, 1865-1920* (Washington 1977), p. 53 and more thoroughly in John P. Langellier and Alan M. Osur, "Chaplain Allen Allensworth and the 24th Infantry, 1886-1906," *The Smoke Signal*, Fall 1980, Tucson Corral of Westerners. Shafter had returned from Cuba in January 1899.

13. *Annual Report, Secretary of War, 1899*, p. 269.

Those who had known only Camp Merritt received a pleasant surprise when they first saw the Model Camp as it was now called.

The 51st Iowa's historian wrote that General Shafter, himself, with cavalry and artillery, led the regiment on a parade from the pier up Market Street to Golden Gate Avenue, down Van Ness, then Lombard to the Presidio. Company M still had its two dogs, Bob and Dewey, who had gone overseas the year before. At the post the brick barracks were familiar but nearby stood a new army general hospital. The hillsides were covered with round-topped tents pitched along well kept streets with adjacent wooden kitchens and other buildings.

The 1st Idaho Infantry left Manila on July 29. The ship was quarantined for two days at Yokohama, Japan, because of measles. Arriving in San Francisco Bay on August 29, the regiment marched to the Presidio, only "quite a number were unable to stand the walk, and made the trip on the street cars." Pvt. James Camp wrote that at the Model Camp the Sibley tents on the warm hillside had board floors and a small stove heated each. Another soldier wrote that on the voyage home his ship had good food. It stopped at the Nagasaki coaling station and at Yokohama. At San Francisco, "We marched to Camp Presidio where we lived pretty good. The people from San Francisco brought us good food to eat."

When the 13th Minnesota entered the Golden Gate on September 7, their state governor greeted them and tendered a banquet for the officers at the Occidental Hotel. The governor of Oregon also came down to welcome home the 2d Oregon Infantry. A lieutenant in the 1st Montana Infantry told of the cheering crowds on Market Street. As for old Camp Merritt and the new Model Camp, the difference was "something marvelous."¹⁴

When the 1st Nebraska reached the Presidio, customs officials inspected their baggage. For the first six evenings the regiment had a dress parade. That idea being abandoned, the men led a life of ease for the rest of their stay enjoying the "first class" food. While the city welcomed all the heroes home, the loudest cheers went up in August when transport *Sherman* entered the Golden Gate bearing the veterans of the

14. Several other governors greeted their troops. The governor of Colorado, Charles Thomas, wrote the Secretary of War Elihu Root praising the efficiency and promptness of the Department of the Pacific and the organization and sanitation of the Model Camp. Thomas, August 24, 1899, to Root, William R. Shafter Papers, Stanford University.

1st California Infantry:

The *Sherman* was the center of the finest naval parade known in the history of the harbor. All the boats in the bay were decorated with flags. . . . that night came a grand display of fireworks on land and water. The morning of the 25th the regiment landed at Folsom-street Wharf, all men wearing neat khaki uniforms and shining equipment. From there they marched to the ferry building . . . for breakfast.

Then the regiment, accompanied by an almost unnoticed volunteer regiment of Coloradans, marched to the Presidio. The city's celebration lasted three days. An army officer stationed in San Francisco witnessed the event, "Market Street is ablaze with bunting and bad painting, softened by a forest of palms and other evergreens through its whole length . . . streets overhung with miles of electric lights."¹⁵

The occupation of the Philippine Islands had not gone smoothly. When General Otis led American troops into the capital city of Manila in August 1898, the Spanish forces willingly surrendered to him but refused to recognize the Filipino leader Emilio Aguinaldo. A university graduate, Aguinaldo had long been a leader of Filipino insurgents against the Spanish regime. He had gone into exile in 1897 and had returned with Commodore Dewey. He became provisional president of a new Philippine Republic in September 1898 and in January 1899 was elected president by a revolutionary assembly.

The treaty of peace between the United States and Spain on December 10, 1898, did not recognize a Philippine republic or Aguinaldo but ceded the islands to the United States. The insurgent Filipinos suffered a great disappointment. Early in February 1899 Aguinaldo declared war against the United States and a force of 40,000 Filipinos clashed with Otis's 12,000 American soldiers. Fighting spread throughout Luzon and other islands. Guerilla warfare continued through 1899 and by the end of the year U.S. forces had increased to 47,500. A year later 75,000 American soldiers were engaged although the fighting had greatly reduced by then. Col. Frederick Funston personally captured Aguinaldo on March 23, 1901, but not until July 4, 1902, did President Theodore Roosevelt announce a conclusion to the Insurrection.¹⁶

15. Markey, *From Iowa to the Philippines*, pp. 287-289; James Camp, *Official History of the First Idaho Infantry* . . . (n.p., n.d.), p. 27; Adam S. Mischel, "Young and Adventurous," *The Journal of a North Dakota Volunteer*. Edited by James F. Vivian, *North Dakota History*, 60:2-11; Tew, *History of the 13th Minnesota*, pp. 42-43; Dodson, *History of the 2d Oregon*, p. 60; Laist, *History of the 1st Montana*, pp. 33-35; Anon, *History of the 1st Nebraska*, p. 40; Detrick, *History of the 1st California*, pp. 29-30; Jocelyn, *Mostly Alkali*, p. 346.

16. *The Army Almanac*, pp. 499, 542-547, and 697-698; Millis, *The Martial Spirit*,

Nearly all the troops going to and coming from the Philippines during these years, whether organized and numbered units, unassigned replacements ("casuals"), or raw recruits spent time at the Presidio's camps. The replacements for the Philippines evolved into two groups, the "casuals," consisting of officers and men going overseas as replacements, and the "recruits," the new soldiers not yet assigned to units and little trained in soldiering. This latter group became referred to as the Recruit Depot.

Generally the Presidio of San Francisco's post returns did not note the Regular Army regiments en route to the Pacific; only the new U.S. Volunteer regiments that partially organized at the Presidio appeared on the returns. Individual replacement men and recruits appeared only as total monthly numbers. Usually, however, the returns did list casual officers by name. While at the Presidio these officers assumed duties as commanders of enlisted men awaiting transportation. A special post return in May 1899 showed the regimental replacements and the unassigned recruits:

Unassigned recruits	640	14th Infantry	275
4th Cavalry	163	18th Infantry	498
3d Infantry	1	20th Infantry	8
4th Infantry	12	21st Infantry	1
6th Infantry	60	23d infantry	398
9th Infantry	6	3d Artillery	164
12th Infantry	5	6th Artillery	7
13th Infantry	2		
		Total	2,240 ¹⁷

By then the casuals had been organized into six companies and a portion of them temporarily occupied the Presidio's old wooden barracks, the Model Camp being crowded with returnees. Others crowded into the portion of the camp known as Tennessee Hollow. A surgeon inspected this area in May 1899 and found the sewage system deplorable. The ground, always damp, had been inflicted with "human exhalations, kitchen refuse, and other poisons." He recommended that the tents be moved to higher, sloping ground and that a new sewer be constructed and connected to the sewer for the new general

(..continued)

pp. 371-398 and 404-408; Dupuy, *Military Biography*, p. 16. Following his capture Aguinaldo took the oath of allegiance to the United States and retired from public life. During World War II he sided with the occupying Japanese forces. Aguinaldo became a member of the Philippine council of state in 1950. He died in 1964.

17. PSF, Miscellaneous Returns 1898-1915. The Presidio's regular garrison that month: 27 officers, 817 enlisted men.

hospital.¹⁸

The large numbers of soldiers at the Presidio caused the post commander to close temporarily the library and reading room that were being overwhelmed. Some relief came in May when the Red Cross erected a large tent furnished with 350 chairs, some tables, and magazines, newspapers, and writing materials. Likewise, the post hospital could not cope with the increasing numbers on sick call. All the sick in the Casual Detachment received instructions to report to the new general hospital.¹⁹

In September 1899 Lt. Col. Stephen Jocelyn, stationed in San Francisco as the Chief Mustering Officer, wrote, "There are a lot of new volunteers passing through to the Philippines – two regiments arrived yesterday – and we shall have a considerable army there by November 1st – a much better force to work with than the state volunteers, the very last of which I am now discharging."²⁰

In a typical letter concerning troops for overseas, the post commander reported in February 1900 that 255 men, infantry, cavalry, artillery, and hospital corps, departed. An army vessel transported them from the Presidio wharf to a transport ship. At that time eight Filipinos, destitute and stranded, waited at the Presidio for passage home. In April 1900 the post commander, Lt. Col. R. I. Eskridge, published a summary of the Presidio's activities since the beginning of the war. He said that the Presidio had become the most important post in the U.S. Army forming as it did a defense of the Golden Gate with fifty-two modern defense guns and mortars. The Presidio garrison amounted to upwards of 1,000 men. The post processed all the regulars and volunteers going to the Philippine Islands. It handled recruits, furloughed soldiers, and discharged men. All the sick returning from the Pacific passed through the reservation, and the remains of deceased soldiers were received there. In addition, animals destined for the far Pacific were handled at the post. Some statistics:

Number of troops camped or stationed at post since April 25, 1898 about

80,000

18. PSF, Special Orders 47, March 24, 1899, Special Orders 1898-1899; Surgeon, Post Hospital, May 23, 1899, to CO, PSF, Register of Letters Received, RG 393, NA. Hansen in *San Francisco Almanac*, records that 1,000 Presidio soldiers rioted in San Francisco on April 16, 1899, and 300 were arrested. I can find accounts for only minor bar fights along Lombard Street during that period.

19. C.E. Compton, May 12, 1899, to Department of California; F. Harris, March 13, 1899, to Post Surgeon, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

20. Jocelyn, *Mostly Alkali*, p. 346. Jocelyn and his wife lived at the Occidental Hotel.

Number of remains received	1,093
Number of animals shipped to Philippines	6,324 ²¹

In another letter Eskridge indicated that the camp had been divided into three parts: the Model Camp proper for returning volunteers, the Casual Camp for unassigned personnel going overseas, and a Regimental Camp for regiments transferring to the Philippines. Together they contained 440 wall tents, 1,185 Sibley tents, 114 hospital tents, 124 kitchens and 124 dining rooms, 38 bathhouses, 132 latrines, 11 storehouses, and 1,777 heating stoves.²²

General Shafter in his annual report for 1900 recorded that 1,368 officers and 39,003 enlisted men had shipped out of San Francisco, and 709 officers and 13,291 men had returned from overseas. The quartermaster had shipped 5,131 horses and mules to the Philippines and China. As for the Presidio's own artillery troops, so many had gone overseas, only enough remained to keep the guns cleaned.²³

In 1901 new infantry regiments were constituted at the Presidio. In March the 1st Battalion (Companies A, B, C, and D) of the Regular Army's 30th Infantry Regiment organized as a provisional battalion. A month later officers assembled at the Presidio for assignment in seven U.S. Volunteer regiments – 26th, 28th, 29th, 32d, 35th, 39th, and 45th. The number of casualties varied from month to month throughout 1901, the largest number being recorded in December – 93 officers and 3,710 enlisted men. By the summer of 1901 all four of the Army's black regiments – 24th and 25th Infantry and 9th and 10th Cavalry – had processed through the Presidio at different times. (The 9th Cavalry Regiment was stationed at the Presidio from October 1902 to July 1904, and the 24th Infantry Regiment formed part of the Presidio garrison during the Panama-Pacific Exposition, from July 1915 to February 1916.)²⁴

21. Eskridge, February 7 and 17, 1900, to Department of California; PSF General Orders 13, April 30, 1900, General Orders 1898-1903, RG 393, NA. At this time small numbers of troops also left for Hawaii and Alaska.

22. Eskridge, March 22, 1900, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

23. *Annual Report, Secretary of War, 1900*, vol. 1, part 3, p. 239.

24. PSF Post Returns, 1898-1901; Post Quartermaster, June 13, 1901, to CO, PSF, Register of Letters Received, RG 393, NA. The 30th Infantry was constituted as of February 2, 1901, at Fort Logan, Colorado, the Presidio of San Francisco, and the Philippines. Mahon and Danysh, *Infantry*, p. 531.

B. Infantry Cantonment 1902-1905

By the fall of 1901 it became apparent that some kind of a formal basic training program for recruits should be established at the Presidio of San Francisco. The Army's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Henry C. Corbin, wrote to the commander of the Department of California, S.B.M. Young, now a major general, of the need to establish a recruit camp at San Francisco for the necessary instruction and equipping of the large number of recruits soon to be needed in the Philippines. Their officers should be officers returning from the Philippines. General Young telegraphed Washington a few days later stating that the Presidio would have camping facilities available for 8,000 recruits on November 1, 1901. He warned, however, that the number would be reduced if the Presidio had to provide for soldiers returning from the Philippines. He said that he preferred to keep the recruits away from the influence of the men coming home for discharge and recommended that this group be processed on Angel Island where the temperature was milder for men returning from the tropics. The Secretary of War Elihu Root immediately approved. The future, however, would see Philippine veterans again training at the Presidio.²⁵

The Presidio commander, Col. Jacob B. Rawles, appealed that December for additional civilian clerks in the "Casual Detachment" because of the increase in the number of recruits. The post returns for the first half of 1902 showed an average of 2,800 recruits per month in the Casual Detachment, which underwent confusing changes in nomenclature during this period: Model Camp, Regiments of Recruits, Detachment of Recruits and Casuals, and Model Camps 1 and 2. A quartermaster wrote in March 1902 that the Presidio had five camps in the eastern part of the reservation: one for regiments returning from the Philippines, one for organizations en route to the Pacific, a detention camp for recruits arriving with infectious diseases, and two for casuals and recruits undergoing instruction and awaiting transportation overseas. The capacity of the five came to 8,000 and by March 1902, 3,806 men had assembled. In April Colonel Rawles wrote that the recruits did not remain at San Francisco long enough to obtain sufficient training. Also, the younger officers temporarily assigned to the recruits lacked experience. The time had come for a change.²⁶

25. Corbin, October 14, 1901, to Young; Young, October 18, 1901, to Corbin; W.H. Carter, October 24, 1901, to Young, General Correspondence 1890-1914, OQMG, RG 92, NA. The discharge camp established on Angel Island is thoroughly described in John P. Finley, "Discharging a Philippine Army," *Sunset* 9 (September 1902): 293-308; 9 (October 1902): 373-384; 10 (November 1902): 15-25; and 10 (December 1902): 116-126. Finley was a captain in the 9th U.S. Infantry.

26. PSF Post Returns 1902; Adjutant, Casual Detachment, December 24, 1901; to CO, PSF; Rawles, April 24, 1902, to Department of California, Register of Letters Received RG 393; Quartermaster, Model Camps, March 29, 1902, to Department of California, General Correspondence, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

By the summer of 1902 the camp underwent another reorganization. Its name, now the Depot of Recruit Instruction, was a little misleading for the complement consisted of the 7th and 19th Infantry returned from the Philippines. The depleted ranks of the two regiments were filled with the raw recruits and the regiments underwent training to bring them back to being effective military organizations.

It took time for these units to understand their relations with the Presidio. The camp commander, Col. Charles A. Coolidge, 7th Infantry, wrote Colonel Rawles saying that since his regiment (headquarters, band, and two companies at the time) was in permanent garrison, he requested suitable quarters for his officers. Rawles replied sharply that the 7th's orders directed it to take station "in the camp" of the Depot of Recruit Instruction and not in the Presidio's quarters or barracks. Further, the Presidio had no vacancies. Thus came the dawning that the recruit establishment was a post separate from the Presidio of San Francisco garrison, each reporting directly to the Department of California. Once again the reservation supported two separate organizations. Coolidge then requested that nine hospital tents be fitted up for his noncommissioned officers and their families. The department refused the request saying that no facilities would be available for families.²⁷

The first indication that the camp needed something more than canvas came later that month when Maj. Gen. Robert P. Hughes wrote to Washington saying that the Army had spent \$60,000 on canvas at San Francisco since 1898 and something more permanent was required. He recommended the construction of temporary barracks of rough lumber, double tier bunks, and small heating stoves for four battalions at the camp. It seems, however, that the Army did not construct the bulk of the wood-frame buildings until early 1904, incorporating them with the older wooden kitchens and mess halls surviving from the 1899 Model Camp.²⁸

27. Coolidge, May 10, 1902, to CO, PSF; Rawles, May 10, 1902, to Department of California, Register of Letters Received; E. Miller, May 16, 1902, to Coolidge, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA. Quarters did become available at least for officers' families.

28. Hughes, May 27, 1902, to AG, U.S. Army, General Correspondence 1890-1914; OQMG, RG 92; Morris, December 13, 1903, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA. A 1907 map showed twenty-four structures in the barracks area, sixteen on officers' row, and fourteen in the administrative area of the eastern portion of the camp. In the western area: fifteen structures on officers' row, thirty-one in the barracks area, and eleven in a separate row of married men's quarters.

Later Colonel Coolidge wrote that 1,500 men of the 7th and 19th regiments had no recreation facilities unless they went into the city. The Presidio would not let them use its post exchange (for financial reasons), which was too far away anyway. He asked for \$8,000 with which to build an exchange and amusement room at the depot.²⁹

In October 1902 Coolidge shed more light on the depot when he said that the 7th Infantry, including its 28-member band, had a strength of 843 enlisted men, and the 19th Infantry, 404 men including its 32-man band. A month later the depot began preparing its own monthly post returns. By mid-1903 the functions of the depot, renamed the Depot of Recruits and Casuals, had moved to Fort McDowell on Angel Island. In its place, in eastern Presidio, the former camp became the "Infantry Cantonment" on September 23, 1903. Its commander, Col. Charles H. Nobel, 10th Infantry, reported that the strength of the command stood at 72 officers and 1,217 men.³⁰

The functions of the Infantry Cantonment continued much as had been the earlier routines – the rejuvenation of the veteran regiments. When the 10th Infantry arrived it contained a large number of veterans, "old soldiers," many of whom received discharges in the months ahead. These men underwent training along with recruits in order to build the regiment back to full strength. These veterans still wore the cotton khaki uniform, now old and worn out, and they suffered in the fog and rain during military instruction in the Presidio's mornings. Because of their discomfort, Nobel preferred to hold the drills in the warmer afternoon weather.³¹

While the records contain little about the construction of the buildings at the cantonment in 1903-1904, they do disclose the temporary nature of them. A confidential report to the Quartermaster General said that barracks, quarters, mess houses, etc., of light temporary frame construction for two regiments were being erected. Thirty-eight buildings had been completed by March 1903 and sixty-two more were under

29. Coolidge, August 25 and November 23, 1902, to AG, U.S. Army, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA. The camp acquired a "regimental-type" post exchange.

30. Coolidge, October 24, 1902, to Department of California; Morris, November 11, 1903, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA; Infantry Cantonment, Post Returns 1902-1903. The 19th Infantry transferred to Vancouver Barracks in July 1902. The 7th Infantry left in October 1903 for Manila. The 10th Infantry arrived at the cantonment from the Philippines in September 1903

31. Nobel, December 10, 1903, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

way. Another report noted the construction of six bathhouses, \$12,579; inclosing porches on captains' quarters, \$4,055; plumbing field officer and captain quarters, \$19,100; and subsistence storehouse, \$3,063.³²

The 7th Infantry settled in what later became West Cantonment and the 19th Infantry in East Cantonment near the Lombard Gate. At one time the U.S. Coast Survey had a small building that served as quarters on the knoll between the two. The quartermaster and commissary buildings for the entire cantonment stood north of the cable car tracks, and north of the 19th Regiment.

Military families were definitely part of the scene when Nobel commanded. He considered the quarters for married lieutenants and captains to be mere shells in which every noise, including conversations, could be heard throughout each duplex. Also the separate community bath houses were inadequate and an unnecessary hardship for the ladies. He proposed modest but separate bathrooms in the quarters. Another colonel commented on the toilet in his quarters. The style was such that the bowl flushed as one rose from the seat. The cataract-like rush of water and the noise embarrassed everyone in the house. Then there was the problem of how to flush urine.

Colonel Nobel wrote a letter in May 1904 explaining why the Infantry Cantonment had such a high desertion rate. First, he said, was the low quality of the recruits. Recruiting officers concerned themselves more with quantity than with quality. The result was a class of men who were of inferior character, many being mere nomads. Also contributing were the poor accommodations and deplorable surroundings. The men could see the Artillery and the 9th Cavalry troops over at the Presidio's main post with their good barracks, reading room, gymnasium, and so forth. The contrast with the cantonment's humble barracks caused discontent. Then, too, the numerous dives and saloons just outside the cantonment provided a source of evil. The veterans of foreign service had expected better when they came home, but when they first saw the post they were heartsick. While much had been done to improve matters much remained to be done, and the men felt this work fell on them.³³

32. Summary sheets of contracts, 1903-1904, Consolidated Correspondence File; Confidential Memorandum for the Quartermaster General, March 4, 1903, General Correspondence 1890-1914, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

33. Noble, November 21, 1903 and May 18, 1904, to Pacific Division, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

Efforts were made to increase morale. On Thanksgiving Day 1903 the cantonment celebrated with a Field Day – 100 yard dash, running broad jump, throwing baseball, 200 yard run, putting 20-pound shot, running high jump, equipment race, and a relay race. The command handed out cash prizes to the winners. In the afternoon the cantonment played a ball game with the Presidio – score unannounced. Nobel regretted that the cantonment did not have a gymnasium with the bad weather coming on.³⁴

Rotation of the regiments continued with the arrival of the 28th Infantry from Manila under Col. Owen J. Sweet in January 1904, and the departure of the 10th Infantry in July that year. Four companies of the Philippine Scouts arrived from Manila in March 1904 and departed a month later for St. Louis, Missouri. Other units at the cantonment in 1904 included the 3d Squadron, 9th Cavalry, which transferred from the Presidio and remained at the camp for less than a month before heading east; a squadron of the 4th Cavalry; the 21st Infantry Regiment, and some individual companies from various organizations.³⁵

A visit by an inspector general in the fall of 1904 revealed a few more details about the camp. It did not have a morning-evening gun. The camp stockade for prisoners was nothing but a high board fence that required a lot of guards. Individual cells did not exist. Some scrap lumber had been nailed to the bottom of the fence to prevent prisoners from digging their way out. Because of a lack of adequate quarters, the teamsters lived in tents in the stable area. The cantonment's last commanding officer, Col. Charles A. Williams, 21st Infantry, recommended no further construction of temporary buildings. If, he said, the cantonment was to be a permanent installation, a competent board of officers should prepare plans for an adequate two-regiment post.

No permanent plan developed. The men, veteran or recruit, made the best of a poor environment. Former Pvt. Peter Smith certainly tried to improve his lot. Court martialed in the Philippines for selling army rations, he had spent six months in the Alcatraz military prison and received a dishonorable discharge. He arrived at the cantonment and got a job in one of the kitchens for his board and volunteer payments (\$6 a month) from the soldiers of the mess. At the same time he performed as a musician in city clubs.

34. Coolidge, January 23 and 24, 1903, to Post Quartermaster; Nobel, December 4, 1903, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

35. Infantry Cantonment Post Returns 1904. In the 1901 expansion of the Army a regiment of Philippine Scouts became a part of the U.S. military establishment. These men served honorably until Philippine independence. Weigley, *United States Army*, p. 318.

Although working half the night he was always the first in the kitchen in the mornings. The commander of the regiment implored the Army, twice, to take him back as a musician in the 10th Infantry regimental band. Alas, Smith's future remains unknown.³⁶

Colonel Nobel, despairing of the gin mills outside the gates and the desertion rates, knew that an army canteen on the post would ease the problem. He also knew that there would be no such establishment because of "the bigoted ladies of the WCTU. Statistics don't affect them." Another problem, apparently solved, involved a civilian dairyman who kept his cows in the cantonment. He received a ten-day notice to take his animals and leave.

Like the Presidio, the Infantry Cantonment had its "Service and Roll Calls".

First call	5:15 a.m.
Reveille	5:25
Assembly	5:30
Mess call	6:00
Sick call	6:30
Fatigue call	6:45
Guard mount	8:50
Adjutant call, as soon thereafter as possible	
Recall from fatigue	11:30
1st Sergeants' call	11:45
Mess call	12:00
Fatigue call (prisoners)	1:00 p.m.
Recall from fatigue	5:30
Mess call	5:50
1st call Retreat	6:15
Assembly	6:25
Retreat	6:30
Call to quarters	10:45
Tattoo	9:00
Taps	11:00
Saturday: 1st call for inspection	8:50 a.m.
Assembly	9:00
Guard mount immediately after inspection	
Sunday: Church call	9:45 a.m.
Church call	7:15 (p.m.) ³⁷

36. Adjutant, 10th Infantry, May 7, 1904, to AG, Washington, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

37. Noble, May 19, 1904, to Department of California; J. Bayliss, May 30, 1904, to CO, 28th Infantry, Letters Sent; General Orders 24, July 3, 1904, General Orders, 1904-1905, RG 393, NA.

In November 1904 the cantonment chaplain opened a school that illiterates had to attend but others could take part if they wished. This undertaking was in addition to seven army schools giving instruction in 1904: five schools for training noncommissioned officers, one for privates, and one called the garrison school. For reasons known only to the Army, all seven schools met at the same hour in a building having four small classrooms. The commanding officer despaired, suggesting the idea of continuing the cantonment itself be taken under advisement by the proper authorities.³⁸

The Infantry Cantonment prepared its last post return in January 1905. Without fanfare, or orders, it ceased to exist. The area returned to the control of the Presidio commander. Future accounts continued for a time to call it the cantonment and organizations traveling to and from overseas stations occupied its facilities during their, usually short, stays at San Francisco. In 1906 the area became formally named the East and West Cantonments. By 1909 the Presidio's garrison had grown extensively and the coast artillery companies occupied the main post; East Cantonment housed the cavalry troops; and infantrymen lived in West Cantonment. In 1994 only four of the original buildings (563, 567, 569, 572) remained, all in East Cantonment.³⁹

C. Boxers and China

While the Presidio itself had little to do with the relief of the foreign legations in Peking (Pekin, Beijing), China in 1900, one of its artillery batteries boarded the same ship that carried the commanding general of the "China Relief Expedition." Also, two cavalry squadrons spent two weeks at the Presidio before boarding that vessel.

By 1899 bands of Chinese, intensely patriotic and fiercely anti-foreigners as well as against other Chinese who had converted to Christianity ("secondary foreign devils"), called themselves the "Fists of Righteous Harmony." When this name was translated into English it became "the Boxers." In December 1899 an

38. General Orders 45, November 11, 1904, Orders and Circulars 1904-1905; C.A. Williams, November 12, 1904, to Department of California, Letters Sent, RG 393, NA.

39. PSF Post Returns 1905. Buildings 563, 569, and 572 were barracks. Building 567 probably was a mess hall. Building records state that 567 was not built until 1908.

English missionary was murdered. European countries and the United States demanded that the empress dowager suppress the rebels. When the Chinese government took no action the foreigners suspected the Manchu dynasty of conspiring with the Boxers. The imperial government and the patriotic bands suspected the foreign powers of planning the conquest of China.

Violence spread. The Japanese chancellor was killed. Foreign buildings in Peking were attacked. The German minister was killed. Then the Boxers attacked the compound that contained the foreign legations.

Brig. Gen. Ada R. Chaffee, fresh from a tour of duty in Cuba, received orders to report in person to the Secretary of War. On June 26, 1900, the Secretary informed him that he would command American forces to secure the relief of the legations and ordered him to proceed to San Francisco immediately. Even before Chaffee reached the West Coast, the 9th Infantry Regiment had sailed from Manila for China. On arriving at San Francisco the general boarded transport *Grant* where he found the Presidio's Battery A, 3d Artillery, on board along with two squadrons of the 6th Cavalry that had arrived at the Recruit Depot two weeks earlier.⁴⁰

In China the American "China Relief Expedition" consisted of four units from the Philippines: 9th and 14th Infantry, a battery of the 5th Artillery, a battalion of U.S. Marines, and support troops such as hospital corpsmen and engineers; and from the United States the 6th Cavalry. The American force numbered about 2,500 men. Other nations contributing troops were:

Japan	10,000
Russia	4,000
Great Britain	3,000
France	800
Germany	100
Austria and Italy	100
Total	20,000 [sic] ⁴¹

40. Battery A had transferred to the Presidio from Angel Island a month earlier. Two of the 6th Cavalry troops, F and G, had been stationed at the Presidio since April 1900. Neither troop joined Chaffee's command, although it is apparent that some of its members did. The ship sailed on July 1. In April 1900 the strength of the two troops stood at five officers and 195 enlisted men. By August they mustered one officer and thirty-two men. PSF Post Returns 1900; G. Nye Steiger, *A History of the Far East* (Boston: Ginn, 1944), pp. 687-693; William Harding Carter, *The Life of Lieutenant General Chaffee* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1917), p. 175.

41. Different sources gave different figures for the Americans, ranging from 2,000 to 2,500. Peter Fleming, *The Siege of Peking* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1959), p. 182. Fleming called the International Relief Force "Operation Babel" and concluded

The 9th Infantry reached the port of Taku on July 6 and along with the U.S. Marines fought in the battle for Tientsin (Tianjin) on July 13. Both the 14th Infantry from Manila and the 6th Cavalry from San Francisco reached Tientsin on July 30. The Allied forces reached Peking in August, the 14th Infantry entering the Tartar City. An American officer wrote, "It is our duty now to record a great disappointment: the British had proceeded the Americans into the Legation grounds." The American troops suffered further casualties in the struggle for the Imperial and Forbidden cities. American casualties for the entire operation amounted to 33 killed and 209 wounded, allied shelling having caused a few of these. Order being restored the American units, except the 9th Infantry, had departed for the Philippines by autumn. General Chaffee and the 9th Infantry (1,876 men) remained as a legation guard until 1901 when they too transferred to the Philippines.⁴²

The years between 1898 and 1905 witnessed intense activity at the Presidio of San Francisco as the United States extended its influence across the Pacific. Thousands of soldiers, dispatched from its camps, became acquainted with faraway lands including Hawaii, Guam, Japan, China, and the Philippines. These thousands returned to the ancient post, some to return to civilian life, others to continue their military careers. In addition caskets arrived at the Presidio pier to remain on the reservation until eternity. Another large chapter became a part of the Presidio's history.⁴³

In 1898 the volunteers had encountered misery at the temporary Camp Merritt south of the Presidio. The sick list climbed to an alarming number and death entered the camp. The Army soon closed the Division

(..continued)

that the total strength was closer to 17,000. An additional American force sailed from San Francisco for China but was diverted to the Philippines when it reached Japan. *Annual Report, Secretary of War, 1900*, vol. 1, part 1, pp. 11-12.

42. A.S. Daggett, *America in the China Relief Expedition* (Kansas City: Hudson-Kimberly, 1903), pp. 27-55, 64-91, 106, and 135. Troops F and G at the Presidio also left for Manila, March 1901.

43. The U.S. Government awarded sixty Medals of Honor to the China Relief Expedition. Four of these went to Army men:

Capt. Andre W. Brewster, 9th Infantry, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900
1st Lt. Louis B. Lawton, 9th Infantry, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900
Musician Calvin Pearl Titus, Company E, 14th Infantry, Peking, China, April 14 [August 14], 1900
Pvt. Robert H. Van Schlick, Company C, 9th Infantry, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900
(Entered service at San Francisco, California)

U.S. Senate, *Medal of Honor*, pp. 391-400.

Field Hospital and the sick moved to the Presidio. There, plans were readied to erect an army general hospital, the first on the West Coast since the Civil War.